Five Big Stories – You choose!

by David Marshall

What was the top news story at Stanborough Press Open Day?

- Dr Roy Adams, Associate editor of the world church’s international news magazine, Adventist Review, choosing to launch his latest book in Britain?
- The ‘Big Burton Day’ – Dr Keith Burton launching his new book, and his brother Ken Burton leading the London Adventist Chorale in their two concerts in the marquees?
- ‘Stars In Their Eyes (2004)’ winner Charles Ngandwe publishing his fascinating zero to hero story with The Stanborough Press?
- Brother H. Smiley’s 30th year bringing his coach to Open Day from the West Midlands?
- Record temperatures?

You choose!

For many the best experience of the day, without doubt, was hearing (twice!) one of the denomination’s foremost thought-leaders, Roy Adams. Some people subsequently took the opportunity to meet Dr Adams in the book-signing tent and to purchase a copy of Crossing Jordan: Joshua, Holy War and God’s Unfailing Promises. The Review and Herald rushed this book out especially for Open Day. The copies on sale were air-freighted over to us. It was a proud day for Brother and Sister Sidney Burton of Croydon. Their youngest son, newly-wed Ken Burton, led the London Adventist Chorale in two brilliant performances. Their older son Dr Keith Burton launched The Compassion of the Christ – a wonderful book on the ministry of Jesus – newly published by The Stanborough Press.

Three books were launched at Open Day – Roy Adams’ Crossing Jordan (£9.25), Charles Ngandwe’s The Voice He Gave Me (£6.95), and Keith Burton’s The Compassion of the Christ (£6.95). All three authors were present to speak and to sign copies. The ABC credit card hotline for those not present on the day is 01476 539900.
Charles Ngandwe has been working with the Press editorial team on his remarkable story for two years. The project has been completed, and the book, published in the six months since he won “Stars in Their Eyes,” the forward to the book, The Voice He Gave Me, was written by “Stars in Their Eyes” presenter Matthew Kelly. At noon, LIF Info editor Lee Gallagher interviewed Charles before a large crowd, including many believers from the Manchester area, where he and his family live. The person without whom Open Day would be sadly incomplete is Brother H. Smiley of Dudley. Each year he produces a video of events in the region from 1994 to 1997 around 20 kilometres away in non-industrial sites. They also studied an increase in thyroid problems in children born near incinerators. Other research published by Harvard Medical School reports increased childhood asthma from transport and industrial emissions, pollen production, spread of particulate matter, and lung function. We need to exercise vigilance in controlling the things that can be controlled to reduce breathing hazards. To do less would leave a nasty smell in the air!

The evidence for various effects on human life is ongoing, Nidia Obi-Okie and her colleagues at the University Hospital (Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany) report that living near toxic waste incinerators passes the chances of having twins! Her team interviewed 639 mothers, half living close to a waste disposal plant and the other living around 25 kilometres away in non-industrial sites. They also studied around 3,360 birth records from the region from 1994 to 1997 dividing these again to proximity to the incinerator or otherwise. Around 5% of the mothers close to the pollution rad twins, nearly double the rate of the woman further afield. While the possibility of having twins might be greater with joy, the risks and inconvenience in this research context that as twins are more likely to have low birthweights, be born prematurely or die in infancy, increasing the likelihood of such births was not something to be welcomed lightiy. The study also found an increase in thyroid problems in children born near incinerators.

Obi-Okie and her colleagues at Theos A & M University (College Station, USA) have shown that particle pollution varies according to the “cocktail” of pollutants. While individual pollutants may be fairly well understood by scientists, it is the cocktail of particles that is receiving careful attention. The mixtures are different depending on where they are born or encountered in the environment from traffic fumes to industrial pollution, and their effects on health and life span are not as well known as scientists would like.

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Twenty-eight baptised by Christine Sinclair, singing evangelist * 15 May-5 June 2004

O n 28 August Pastor and Mrs Stearman celebrated their diamond wedding. For this still-active couple, the past sixty years have included a very busy working life and retirement, five daughters, seven grand- children, four great-grandchildren, more than a dozen house moves and much international travel!

Now members of Stanborough Park church, Pastor Steven and Vera both grew up in the Norwegian church. However, they did not become ‘an item’ until they undertook their studies at Newbold College. Upon completion of his ministerial studies Pastor became an itinerant Pastor and worked in both London and Birmingham for eighteen months before moving on to become pastor of the Worcester church and Kidderminster and Bromsgrove companies. During that time he ran a successful evangelistic campaign in the city. Vera was equally in demand in her own right. Upon receiving a call to mission service in the Gold Coast (Ghana), Vera, by then his fiancée, decided to abandon her Bible instructor studies and accompany him. They married in the Sparkill Congregational church on 28 August 1944.

Arriving in Ghana in March 1945 during wartime, their journey took three weeks as part of a convey of forty ships, accompanied by two destroyers. Once there they discovered that the work at the Agana Station involved the care of forty churches and companies and management of ten church schools. Their bicycles, which they brought with them, became their main form of transport. Vera took charge of the dispensary. She also acted as dentist, extracting teeth with the dental forceps in the clinic. After this, there was a three-year period when Pastor Stearman served as secretary-treasurer at Kumi, followed by a further three years as a minister in Kaduna District.

In 1953 they returned to England with their three daughters (Kathleen, Carolyn and Jacqueline) to begin a fifteen-year period as district minister in the South England Conference. During this time two more daughters (Rosalind and Aila) were born.

Arriving in the Bristol area in September 1953 they subsequently moved to care for churches in the Southport area and then Bournemouth area before reaching Stanborough Park in 1964. After that they looked after churches in the South London area before moving to Wales in July 1969 where Pastor Stearman served a seven-year term as Mission president.

* For further information regarding the music ministry of Christine Sinclair visit www.sinclarmusic.com

Celebrating sixty years of team ministry
by June Coombs

Their final posting was at their ‘home church’ of Norwich where they remained for eight years before retiring to the Isle of Wight to take up ‘lighter duties’. Here their role was to rebuild the small island company which was about to be disbanded.

The Stearmans’ home life has been far from quiet— they have always been known for their hospitality. ‘Throughout their married life Mum and Dad’s home has always been a place where people are welcome, says daughter Carol Buckingham. ‘When Dad was a church pastor, fifteen members invited back for lunch each Sabbath was the norm. The teams of evangelistic workers who helped to run campaigns in Wales, Norwich and the Isle of Wight were made to feel part of the family.’

Finally retiring after nearly fifty years of active service, the Stearmans remained on the island until 1998 when they moved to Waltham to be nearer Carol, their only daughter, and then to remain on home soil. (The other live in France, Spain and Australia.) However, they were called out of retirement for brief periods in 1998 and 1999 to serve as SOS workers in Enniskillen.

They are active members of Stanborough Park church’s senior group and keen supporters of church activities. Pastor Stearman retains his interest in the church’s annual flower and vegetable shows and the couple work two allotments, growing their own vegetables. They also take time to make regular visits to see their four daughters, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren living abroad. They spent last Christmas with Kathleen and her family and in France and Austria will be visiting his sister Rosalind in Spain later this year.

The special occasion was celebrated with a surprise party for the couple at the Stanborough Centre attended by family and friends.

Bletchley Community church inaugurated

Over the years the membership in Milton Keynes has grown and, and when the building in Fishermead, Keble Lines, was first built some observed that it may have been a bit small to accommodate the growing attendance. The solution soon became clear. Let’s start another one was decided. That is exactly what Bletchley was to be the site of the new congregation. Bletchley is one of three towns that make up the triangle that is now Milton Keynes. Training for the project took place in Milton Keynes church a year before for those who were interested in being part of the core team. The new church in Bletchley started with a few members who included three ordained elders and their families and soon grew so did the church that, on 19 June, the church was officially inaugurated into the South England Conference as a fully fledged congregation.

The attendance is tidy to seventy-five plus and the church was three-being members of the Community church. So 19 June was history was made for the region and on this day the church is the church in Bletchley was filled with capacity with approximately 200 people.

The service was conducted by Pastor Don McLachlan, SEC president, Pastor Dalbert Ellis, SEC secretary, Earl Singh, SEC treasurer, and Pastor Colin Stewart, the local minister. Special guest for the day was the Mayor of Milton Keynes and his Mayress with her husband. Then came the formal inauguration in which the group was officially changed from being part of an extension of the Central Milton Keynes church, to a congregation in its own right. This was done in three stages. Firstly Pastor Stewart read out the names of the charter members who were present. Then Howard Kennedy was the guest evangelist, who preached the word. We all prayed that the Lord would bless us in our efforts.

In addition to those who were baptised during the campaign, others have requested baptism, and several are receiving Bible classes. Many individuals, already members of the church, experienced personal revival and a renewed commitment to serve the Lord.

One of the baptismal candidates had a special experience. Heather is from California. She was on holiday visiting her sister from London. When Pastor first came out to the church, she wanted to be baptised. At the time, she had no intention of being members of the church, to a congregation in its own right in which the group was officially changed from being part of the core team. The reason was the church in Bletchley started with a few members who included three ordained elders and their families and soon grew so did the church that, on 19 June, the church was officially inaugurated into the South England Conference as a fully fledged congregation.

When Pastor Stewart, in this case, as well as the local congregation of Milton Keynes Central, was received. ERIK CORLEONI and CLIVE SOUTHWICK

Milton Keynes

baptism

On 19 June, five people were baptised at the Central Milton Keynes church. Six of the nine are to be members of the new church in Bletchley, the church and two from the Central MK church, with the other candidate being a member of the Bletchley church. This baptism represented the climax of a youth revival in Central Milton Keynes church. The speaker was Laclare Litchfield, a youth who was brought up in Milton Keynes. She was prepared for baptism previous- ly by local minister Pastor Colin Stewart, the local worker. The candidate coming from Bletchley church was baptised by Pastor local minister Pastor Jonathan Barrett. This candidate is related to one of the candidates from Milton Keynes Central. Once more MK Central was baptised by Pastor Dalbert Ellis and the group was present with a gift from Earl Singh of $100. Later another monetary gift from Milton Keynes Central was received.

A new year at
Newbold

Nearly 200 new students have regis- tered for the school year at Newbold, which now enrols several fewer than 300 students, most of whom arrived on campus this week before term started.

The students arriving from out side the United Kingdom, many com- ing to Europe for the first time, spent the week getting used to and enjoy- ing their new surroundings.

Newbold College for one semester. Many Newbold students arrive on similar study-abroad programmes and stay for a year or less. This makes Newbold an international institution with a student body that represents more than sixty nations. ‘I actually prefer to be in an international school,’ said Danielle Renals, a 20-year-old Britsh student. ‘I just think it makes life a lot more interesting. It makes you more open- minded about other people and other languages.’

At an orientation meeting trans- lators conversed with students in German, Japanese, Russian, Serbian and Spanish.

The Spirit at work in Swansea

August 21 was a special day for two young men. Christopher Kidwell (16) and Martyn Latchman (17) have been good friends for years and they were baptised by Pastors Ed Sammons and Jeremy Treer.

Swansea church has seen those two young men grow and become more involved in church activities. They attended Pathfinder Club in Karmarnin for many years and are currently guitarists and vocalists in the Swansea Praise Team, where their musical talents have been developed.

Joy. Both have attended international Pathfinder camps, including Norway and Poland and most recently, the Youth Congress in Poland, which was followed by a mission project in Lithuania.

Our membership increased fur- ther when, on 21 August, Ffion Paul and Leslie Noakes also gave their part in the Swansea church and in Birmingham congregations, also contributing in starting an Adventist student group in Birmingham University. Her musical talents on the violin have brought joy to all those who hear her play and her relationship with God has gone from strength to strength.

Leslie’s family have been praying for her for more than thirty years and the Lord has been drawing Leslie to himself for some time. The death of her brother-in-law Vince Quinn in Crieff in Scotland, Leslie heard the voice of God and it came to her. She is very active in Bolton church but chose to be baptised in the sea where she feels closer to God.

Pastor Brian Phillips, president of the Welsh Mission, attended both baptisms and welcomed the candidates into fellowship.

Leslie and her fiancé looking forward by Ffion Paul and Jeremy Treer

The Spirit at work in Wales

Linda Jennings, who lives in Jersey, has been part of the church in Jersey for many years. She attended the church with her partner and has been a member of the church for the past eight years. She has always been active in the church in Jersey and has been a part of many church activities. She is very active in the church and has been a part of many church activities.

Chris and Martin with Pastors Ed and Jeremy
Abuse prevention and what to do when it happens

by Heather Haworth

Abuse Prevention Awareness. Every year it is observed on 25 November, bringing this home to me as never before. Listening to the interview on the radio surprised me that ‘abusive acts’ are in 27-69% emotionally abused and 13-58% physically abused. The daughters do not have to copy their mothers and the age-old saying that still rings true today is ‘the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree’. The cycle was carrying on and on and on, bruised and broken by any type of abuse, but as many as one in three women around the world will be raped, beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in their lifetime. Those who are victims are more likely to have a sense of guilt about the abuse, and to establish the truth about this unfortu-

Real Christianity is exhibited by those who cannot help themselves

In 1994 the GC department surveyed 8,000 people in seven world churches on the following questions, which represent the lowest and highest percentages of the number of cases of abuse that were reported:

**Females**
- 83%—sexually abused
- 42%—physically abused
- 27%—emotionally abused

**Males**
- 42%—sexually abused
- 37%—emotionally abused
- 25%—physically abused

Yes, abuse is a very real everyday occurrence in our church. Perhaps you are surprised at the male figures in particular. It is the 16-year-old girl in the UK who is most at risk of sexual abuse. Some of the last day events listening to the information brought this home to me as never before. ‘Abuse can take many forms, and it can happen to anyone. It is important that we, as a church, understand how to use this information to help someone. It can be very difficult to know how to help someone who is going through an abusive situation. It is important to remember that you are not alone and that there is help available.’

Leverpool baptism

The Merseyside churches of Wallasey and Liverpool came together on 25 November to celebrate the baptism of new members into the family of God. Tracy Carter, who joined the Wallasey church as a baby 30 years ago, started the baptism service. Tracy then went on to mention the problem of the in 1983. She lived in Wallasey and moved to Liverpool in 1983 to spend the rest of her life there. Her father had died in 1983 and her mother had remarried. Tracy was brought up in a cycle of abuse and family violence was its rightful name. At the General Conference make this topic a key issue in the debates. Conference. It will be interesting to see who will take up the challenge in 2005, to work with the Spirit, to have a chance to have their name engraved on the shield. KAREN MURPHY

Barley Ingathering Award

What do you do when your top pioneer for many years dies? One of the things you might think of is to ask if they would like to be made an award in that person’s honour, so this is precisely what was done at Barley during South West this year.

For many years Arthur Bailey was the highest collector from the congregation, collecting over £1,000 annually. Regardless of the weather, Arthur was found on the streets of Chesham, with his dog, ‘Saturn’ to distribute the collection. Everyone knows how to avoid abusive relationships and to value themselves as equals. ‘Abuse always starts with an unhealthy relationship between another young man or woman who loves, not abuse, and provides workshops for the young people.’

Prevention is better than cure and this is why Arthur Bailey’s Ingathering Award was set up to encourage the cause and still help those who are being impacted by abusive acts.

Barley Ingathering Award

Are you a pioneer? Are you interested in helping to promote the cause of prevention? If so, we would love to hear from you. We are always looking for new members to be involved in this important work. We are also looking for members to form a group or church that will contribute to this work.

Southall baptism

There was great joy in the Southall church on 29 May when Setia Mangat and Jennifer Nomura were baptised, who were both from Indonesia, with a heart for the gospel as a commission, I am wondering if you might consider Serving Stirling as a part of your studies. In doing so, you will not only be fulfilling your mission as an aim to be a student but may become an important part of the Ingathering church. In this approach a tea ceremony was held in June, with setia mangat (setia@sadiotanjung.com) and we can talk about being a student + ministry opportunities.

OBITUARIES

Mary Alice Adderley was born in Liverpool, England, in 1930, and moved to Leeds and moved to Keigworth, where she was born in 1930 and married Alfred Roby in 1953. She had two children, Karen Holford and Jane Morrison, who collected over £800. Morrison, who collected over £800. Morrison, who collected over £800. Morrison, who collected over £800. Morrison, who collected over £800.

Mary’s great love of music was beautifully in-
Top left and middle. H. Smiley of Dudley has been driving a coachful of people to Open Day for thirty years.
Top right. Don and Margaret Morgan – still smiling after a hard day’s work.
Bottom left. Where the print machines used to be.
Bottom right. A great day out for all the family.
Middle. Karen Holford speaks in one of morning seminars. Waddy Rogers and Sticky Feet by Karen Holford – a book for mums under pressure is released at Open Day.

Open Day Snapshots

Messenger
Please submit advertisements in this format. Please make the church connection clear. For a complete list of upcoming events check out the database on the BUC website, www.adventist.org.uk.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<td>11 October</td>
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<td>Pastor Ben McFarland and Pastor Bruce Flynn</td>
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<td>15-17 October</td>
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<td>Pastor Calvin Preston from USA</td>
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**ABC BOOK SALES**

**September**
- 26: West Midlands 10am-2pm
- 10: Middlesex School
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- 3: John Loughborough 10am-2pm
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**Upcoming Events**

**EVENT WHEN WHERE WHO HOW**

- **GO UK**
  - **10-11 October**
  - **10am-whole day**
  - **Adventist church, Windrush Street South, Birmingham**
  - **Pastor Ben McFarland and Pastor Bruce Flynn**
  - **Limited space, book soon to avoid disappointment.**

- **"Time to Make That Change" campaign**
  - **26-Sept-2 Oct**
  - **2pm – close**
  - **Pastor Nigel G. David, San. Asia speakers and artists from UK and USA**
  - **Tdh Hughes – 020 8518 5644. Info and tickets to ‘Evening of Praise’ (2 Oct)**

- **"Looking Love" Marriage Enrichment Weekend**
  - **8-10 October**
  - **Highgate House, Conference Centre**
  - **NCC Family Ministries**
  - **Pastor C. Sweeney (0115 9606312) Limited spaces, book soon to avoid disappointment.**

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**Sunset**

Sunset times are reproduced with permission here data supplied by the Science Research Council.

- **Sept**
  - **24**
  - **6.54**
  - **7.06**
  - **7.17**

- **Oct**
  - **8**
  - **6.22**
  - **6.34**
  - **6.25**
  - **6.29**
  - **6.42**
  - **8**
  - **6.07**
  - **6.19**
  - **6.09**
  - **6.12**
  - **6.25**

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